



MISSION: INTEGRATION

HANFORD

MISSION

INTEGRATION

SOLUTIONS

NEWSLETTER

January 2022



# MISSION: HEALTH & SAFETY

Safety is paramount in all we do and all conditions we face.

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OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT



This month we celebrated one year in business as the Hanford Mission Integration Solutions team – thank you to everyone who made this a great year! Whether you've been at Hanford several decades or only recently started working here, your contributions and hard work make an impact.

Between winter weather and another surge of COVID-19 in our community, 2022 has already had its share of both challenges and opportunities. The perseverance of this team is second to none and I have no doubt we will continue to exceed expectations while exploring opportunities for improvement as the site integrator.

In all circumstances, it is critical we continue to practice situational awareness and watch out for the safety and well-being of ourselves and our co-workers. This includes mental wellness. Coming out of the holidays, dreary winter weather, the stress of the pandemic, and everyday pressures – these all impact our well-being. If you're struggling, I encourage you to ask for help or seek assistance from the many resources available at HPMC.

As always, if you ever have safety concerns at work, it is your responsibility to speak up. There are numerous avenues to address safety concerns, including bringing up an issue in a pre-job meeting, talking to your manager, contacting a safety representative, using the safety log books and more. Just like with ethics, if you see something, we expect you to say something.

Thank you for your attention to safety at the Hanford Site and for taking the safety mentality home with you. Together we can make sure 2022 is a safe year for HMIS, Hanford, and all of us who work here.

Bob

Guest Message – Andy Foster

As we move into the new year, with many distractions still at work and at home, we may not be as focused as we should be. It takes time to readjust to a daily routine. With that in mind, remember to take the time to refocus with your co-workers. Have a questioning attitude and look for changes. Plan your week and take an extra moment to walk through the task at hand to ensure conditions are safe and your awareness and attention to detail is high.

The new year is a great opportunity to bring about positive change by improving attitudes and personal performance. We finished 2021 safely and successfully and look forward to many opportunities to enhance HMIS safety and productivity in 2022. The Injury Analysis Review helps us better understand our injury and vehicle incidents. Information mined from the IAR helps us adequately evaluate our workplace, better understand hazards, and implement worker protections to reduce and eliminate incidents. We will soon perform our first HMIS annual injury review. ISMS, safety culture, and VPP efforts will also continue. Please get involved. To be successful, these programs need both worker and management involvement. We have great opportunities to take our safety program and performance to a higher level.

Safety is our biggest priority every day. Stay focused, watch out for each other, follow our processes and procedures, and we can all have a safe and productive year.

Thank you for your continued commitment to working safely. Remember to be safe in all you do, whether at work, on the road, or at home.





# RECOGNITION

## Hanford Fire Department Graduates New Recruits

Contributor: Melissa Ver Steeg

The Hanford Fire Department welcomes its 12 newest recruits, following graduation of the 16-week New Recruit Training Academy. Congratulations to Christina Aamodt, Jesse Johnson, Tristan Keith, Matthew McClendon, Daniel Osorio, Jonathon Palmieri, Gavin Reid, Michael Richardson, Kyle Riche, Jaime Sanchez, Masha Sells, and Robert Wright, who join the HFD ranks.

Captain Jason Noah, who led this training class, took recruits through company training, including RadWorker, HAZWOPER, lockout/tagout, beryllium, confined space, fall protection, and hazmat technician, among others. Firefighters then step into fire training, including fire rescue, criticality training, standards for fire protection suppression and fire alarm systems, wildland firefighter training, and more. Training courses include hands-on training at HAMMER, where recruits experience near real-life firefighting scenarios.

Assistant chief of Training and Certifications, Nick Thomas, was delighted with how many local candidates enrolled in this academy, “We often have a lot of recruits who come from outside of the Tri-Cities. We were pleased with how many local candidates successfully passed the academy and hope they find Hanford to be their home for the next 30 years.”



Hanford Fire Department recruits battle an early morning blaze as part of the New Recruit Training Academy. The vehicle fire prop at HAMMER provides near real-life training for new firefighters.



# ONE HANFORD MISSION

## New Program to Attract Future Hanford Workers

Contributor: Robin Wojtanik

The start of the new year coincided with the launch of a new program at Columbia Basin College, and an expansion of our ongoing partnership with CBC. The Pathways to Hanford (P2H) program intends to showcase Hanford career options while introducing students to internship programs, desired skills and the overall hiring process.

By taking part in the P2H program, Workforce Solutions will provide insight into the type of on-demand careers available in our scope of work, including roles in business, project controls and engineering, among others. Additionally, we'll participate in quarterly events that offer feedback on interviewing and resume tips while also providing mentoring to help students develop “soft skills,” like flexibility, teamwork and problem-solving.

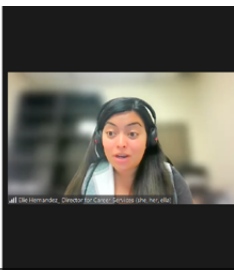
### What is P2H?

Pathways to Hanford (P2H) is design to support students exploring career choices and employment opportunities at Hanford.

- Gain insights of company values
- Explore careers
- Learn about Hanford internship programs and their general hiring process
- Get an understanding of sought-out skills

Through the program, students will have the opportunity to develop a professional network with Hanford contractors by attending networking events, workshops, and attend drop-in hours.

CBC students completing the P2H program will earn certificates in Microsoft Word and Excel.



Columbia Basin College held a virtual orientation this month with students interested in the Pathways to Hanford program.

“While technical skills open the doors for opportunities in the workplace, it is perhaps even more important to have soft skills necessary to be a contributing force on a high-performing team. These skills aren't always taught in a classroom,” said Julie Lindstrom, VP of Workforce Solutions. “We believe this is where we add value and support to help students put their best foot forward as they step into their career journey.”

P2H students will develop a professional network with Hanford contractors, including HMIS, that may expand career opportunities post-graduation. Our WS group will be available to answer questions about our internship programs and the hiring process. The goal is to bridge the gap between the students and the jobs that await.

“Many students aren't aware of the exciting careers available at Hanford,” said Maureen Gore, HR specialist. “We have ‘big city’ types of jobs right here.”

HMIS enthusiastically pledged more than \$22,000 toward the P2H program to ensure support of students. Other Hanford contractors, including Bechtel, CPCCo and WRPS also committed to participate in the program.

# ONE HANFORD MISSION



IMS communications specialists Jason Hammack (left) and Quinn Bragg installed an antenna on Rattlesnake to support emergency services communications.

## Icy Work on Rattlesnake Mountain

Contributor: Shane Edinger

There's not much that will keep communications specialists with the Information Management Services team from completing their work safely and efficiently.

On what seemed a typical winter day on the Hanford Site last month, Quinn Bragg and Jason Hammack faced much more challenging weather conditions on top of Rattlesnake Mountain as they worked to install cable and a radio antenna on one of the 200-foot communications towers. Near zero visibility and wind chill temperatures hovering around 10° created a working environment that resembled a scene from the icy planet of Hoth in The Empire Strikes Back.

"I was in my office when our field work supervisor texted me some photos," recalled Kenny Ferguson, director of IT Customer Support Services. "It was pretty nice here in town, and I was amazed at how different conditions were just 20 miles away."



Conditions were a bit frosty for Jason Hammack as he completed tower upgrades.

Decked out in personal protective equipment and several layers, Quinn and Jason installed an antenna on the tower that will support emergency services communications for Hanford Fire and Hanford Patrol. The conditions meant the work took a little longer to complete, but it didn't stop them from getting the job done.

"With each work package, we'll do a project walk down and analyze any potential hazards to ensure they're covered in the job project safety plan," shared field work supervisor Chris Brown. "It's important to get the work done, but doing it safely is even more vital."



Quinn Bragg shares the view from his "office" on a very chilly day on Rattlesnake Mountain.

# ONE HANFORD MISSION

## Makeover on the Met Tower

Contributor: Robin Wojtanik

Work done on a snowy Rattlesnake Mountain connects to projects high on the meteorological tower in an overall effort to reduce the footprint on Gable Mountain. Most recently, the Information Management Services team installed Hanford Site Emergency Alerting System equipment as part of an infrastructure upgrade, relocating it from Gable Mountain.



Shad Smith removes cross arms using a portable saw.

recently. Add in temperatures below freezing and steady winds, and that's not a job most people can do!

The HSEAS includes sirens, phones, computers and radios activated for emergency notification. IMS crews added HSEAS equipment to both

IMS field worker Bryan Hurt demonstrated his nerves of steel to string cables about halfway up the 400-foot tower



Bryan Hurt installs cables and antennas on the meteorological tower.

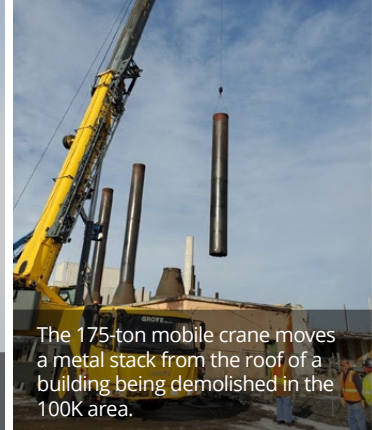
the met tower and Rattlesnake, as primary and backup coverage, as well as infrastructure for the new wireless Essential Services Local Area Network. The ESLAN supports 911 systems and emergency radio for contractors across the site.

Before IMS work could even begin – more climbs had to be made up the met tower. Our Facilities Engineering group performed a structural analysis, which determined the load on the tower had approached its upper limit. This meant some items had to come off before new items could go on, including unused crossarms, conductors and conduit at varying levels on the tower.

Time to call in the Crane & Rigging crew and pipefitters! They scaled the tower to remove "dead weight" starting 100-feet up. To maintain safety, workers set up a 50-foot barricade and drop zone around the tower, utilized power from a generator, and used portable saws to remove equipment in pieces – tossing items into the barricaded area. Once each height was cleared, the crew climbed higher, removing pieces all the way up to 350-feet.

Additionally, extensive work is wrapping up for Project L-937, resulting in consolidated communication systems, new solar panels, and a reduced footprint on Gable Mountain.





Ironworkers Jason Hemperly (left) and Mike Aldrich attached the crane line to the stack. *Photo credit: John Wilkerson/CPCCo.*

The 175-ton mobile crane moves a metal stack from the roof of a building being demolished in the 100K area.

The 165KW building looks a lot different after our Crane & Rigging team removed its three metal stacks this month.

LaVonne Stamper in position for whole-body counting in the Palmer Room. Shielding for this room is provided by 10-inches of pre-war steel salvaged from the U.S.S. Indiana, BB-58.

## MISSION: HEALTH & SAFETY

### Crane & Rigging Crew Removes Building Stacks

*Contributor: Robin Wojtanik*

Three stacks are no more! Once located at 165KW, a former power control building in the 100K area, our Crane & Rigging team took down three steel stacks this month. The job was part of an ongoing effort by CPCCo to demolish a building that once supported the 105KW reactor.

The building was decommissioned in 1970 and the three exhaust stacks on top each rose about 40-feet high. Prior to removal, the stacks were estimated to weigh about 8,500-pounds. To safely take them down, CPCCo removed the west wall of the building first.

From there, pipefitters cut holes into the top of each ventilation stack to attach it to a line on the crane, keeping it stable. Then, a cutting torch freed the stack from the building so it could be raised, while spotters helped guide each one safely to the ground. Once work began, C&R found the

stacks were about 1,200-pounds lighter than expected, allowing safe work using the 175-ton crane already on site.

C&R chose this method of removing the stacks as a safer alternative due to the tight work area. “Utilizing a mobile crane to pick up each stack allowed for full control of the stacks and precise movements where needed,” said Sean McFadden, director of Crane & Rigging Services.

It might have been faster to use an excavator, but the nearby oil storage vault for the building is still standing and keeping the crane operator safe was the primary goal. The team also ensured safety of the pipefitters by attaching metal tabs to the base to protect personnel while using the cutting torch.

CPCCo will continue to demolish the remainder of the building. Once visible from a long distance, the three steel stacks will be cut into pieces and disposed of at ERDF.

## MISSION: HEALTH & SAFETY

### Team Focus: In Vivo Bioassay Group

*Contributor: Cerise Peck*

While the equipment may look a bit intimidating, its function is rather intricate and essential to ongoing health and safety monitoring for many Hanford Site employees. A team of HMIS Radiological Site Services health physicists at 805 Goethals use direct radio bioassay, which tracks the activity, or amount of radioactive material in the body, to detect potential intakes.

Using sophisticated counting arrays, technicians can identify specific radioactive elements (“radionuclides”) in the whole body or focus on specific organs. Lung counts are commonly used at Hanford to look for potential intakes of plutonium and its associate radionuclides since plutonium at Hanford is a mix of plutonium isotopes and americium. Besides the lungs, detectors can focus on the thyroid, liver, and other organs, as necessary. Wound counts are also conducted.

RSS manager Don Stewart and the In Vivo Monitoring Program team are responsible for measuring potential intakes and estimating internal radiation doses, “When you breathe something in, a fraction remains in the

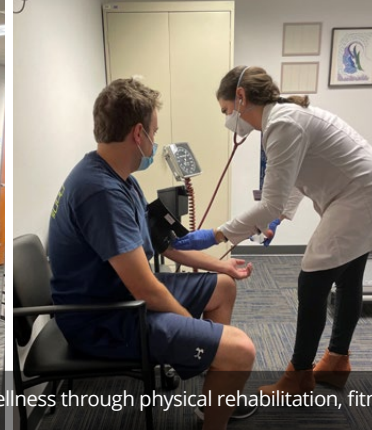
body. We use that fraction to estimate the initial intake and any resulting internal dose.” It doesn’t take an actual intake for an employee to meet the RSS team since routine monitoring is conducted to comply with federal law and ensure ongoing safety of the workforce.

Annual monitoring is the standard; however, the frequency may vary based on an employee’s work location. Using five counting arrays in small rooms shielded from natural radiation, the RSS team monitors 300-500 employees a month. This is done along with bioassay sample analysis and external dose measurements to determine worker radiation dose.

RSS also compiles and maintains all site radiation records and performs calibration and repair of portable radiation detection instruments, with the team playing a large role in the One Hanford mission!







Exercise physiologists and health educators help Hanford workers improve wellness through physical rehabilitation, fitness assessment, and health coaching.



◀ Snapshots of some of our EZAC chairs.

## MISSION: HEALTH & SAFETY

### Health IS Safety: Worksite Wellness

*Contributor: Jill Harvill*

Our health is the most important tool in our safety toolbox. Without that, all other tasks become more difficult. Wellness at work was once an idealist's dream. Today, with more employees balancing work, family, home, and community, the value of employee wellness is acknowledged in industries both big and small.

In addition to company policies and health benefits, at Hanford we are fortunate to have worksite wellness support provided by HPMC Occupational Medical Services. Friendly, knowledgeable staff provide several programs and resources to support a holistic approach to employee wellness.

One approach is Total Worker Health at Hanford, which aligns with the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health's Total Worker Health® program, focusing on how the workplace environment can both control threats to safety and health and enhance worker well-being. HPMC OMS' health promotion is aligned with seven key areas of wellness: health, meaning, safety, connection, achievement, growth, and resiliency.

"We provide education through webinars and presentations, as well as individual services," said Audrey Wright, HPMC OMS health education specialist. You'll recognize Audrey as a frequent guest presenter at HMIS PZAC meetings!

Another resource is Industrial Rehabilitation, which can help with that nagging back pain or assess your overall fitness to help you focus on your wellness goals.

Behavioral Health Services provides an Employee Assistance Program that includes up to eight confidential counseling sessions each calendar year. The EAP is available to employees and their spouses/partners to address such issues as depression, anxiety, workplace conflict, stress, anger management and couples counseling.

"Workers who feel well are more engaged and happier, which improves site morale and overall productivity," said Wright. If your health needs a tune up, reach out to OMCWellness@rl.gov. HPMC OMS worksite wellness services are available to all Hanford Site employees Monday – Friday. Telehealth appointments are also available. Talk to your manager about attendance options during your workday.

## MISSION: HEALTH & SAFETY

### Get Back on Track with EZAC

*Contributor: Cerise Peck*

Many use the new year to get back on track with their health, and it can be done at work as well! Members of the Employee Zero Accident Councils are here to help start 2022 with safety in mind.

The EZAC works to protect and improve the health and safety culture of all employees. This is done by demonstrating commitment to affect positive change within the five elements of DOE's Voluntary Protection Program and promoting the Integrated Safety Management System.

The EZAC strives to achieve a single safety program, while providing the leadership to influence positive behavior and continual improvement toward the goal of zero accidents. The goal of zero accidents is a cooperative effort by all HMIS employees to provide a healthy, safe and injury-free workplace.

Each organization has at least one chairperson who can help with safety questions. Whether you need the safety log book, a stretch card or have questions about a safety lunch, your EZAC chair has the answers.

Chairs are responsible for organizing monthly EZAC meetings and bringing back information from the Presidents' Zero Accident Council monthly meeting. Presenting safety information to the organization is a core duty of the EZAC chair. Your chairperson can also provide you with safety topics, such as ergonomics and stretching.

Information regarding EZAC can be found [here](#). This team is a critical part of making sure the HMIS workforce stays safe, but so are you. Be sure to introduce yourself to your EZAC chair. Getting involved is an easy way to set yourself up for safety success in 2022!







Teamsters plowed snow-covered roads across the Hanford Site in early January.



Heavy equipment operator Clint Nevills clears roads.

## MISSION: HEALTH & SAFETY

### Weather is 'Snow' Match for Our Transportation Team!

Contributor: Robin Wojtanik

Snow may threaten important work – but that’s when our Transportation Services team rises to the challenge! This month alone, they staffed plows nearly round-the-clock to clear hundreds of miles of road, shuffling about 100 teamsters and a dozen heavy equipment operators to do the job while remaining safely in compliance with work hours regulation. It’s no small task to keep the crew refreshed and the plows running, allowing the Hanford workforce to safely commute.

The team with Interface & Integration Services is responsible for about 370-miles of roadway – an area larger than Richland and West Richland combined! The early January effort required about 600 tons of deicing material for roads, parking lots and walkways, but that wasn’t the true kickoff to snow removal work.

“The season does not start with the first flake. It begins in June when the team dusts off the snow plan for changes and updates,” said Brian Bergum, Transportation Services director. “Then, we hold a meeting with other Hanford contractors, Hanford Fire, Hanford Patrol, and the Emergency Operations Center, to get any updates to the plan and emergency contact list.”

From there, the group monitors the weather daily with help from HMIS meteorologists. Any time inclement weather is forecast, the team coordinates with OHCs to be sure resources are ready to load trucks at salt storage sites for spreading on roads. “This work could not be accomplished without the support from our Fleet Services organization, keeping the equipment maintained and running,” said Bergum.

“The capabilities of our snow removal are second-to-none,” added HMIS president Bob Wilkinson. “The planning, response and execution this team delivers is a standard no other agency can match. They are consistently proactive and reliable to keep the roads safe for the Hanford Site.”

## HMIS FAMILY



### Resolution Read Deliveries

Following the labeling and bagging of 6,000 books for The Children’s Reading Foundation of the Mid-Columbia, our volunteers completed home deliveries throughout the community. Each household received a dozen books of varying levels with the aim to read one each month, targeting 20 minutes of reading time each day.

# HAPPY Anniversary



## COMMEMORATION

### Perseverance and Innovation Mark One Year at HMIS

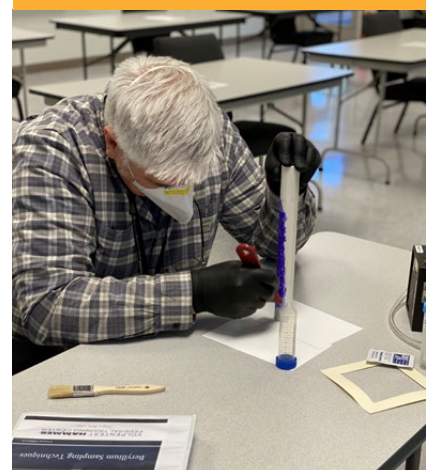
*Contributor: Jill Harvill*

What a year! January 25 marked our first anniversary of the Hanford Mission Essential Services Contract. Applying a new contract and governance model have laid the groundwork for continued integration of site services and cleanup progress. There is a lot to look back on this year, and just as much to look forward to next year!

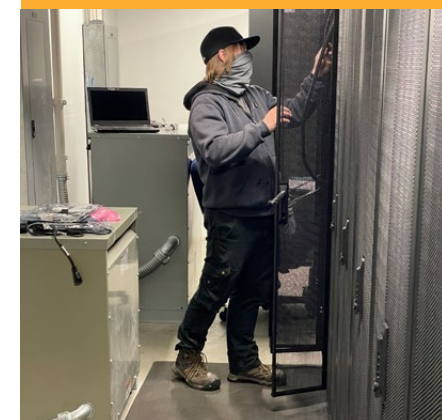
01 JANUARY



03 MARCH



04 APRIL



02 FEBRUARY



#### Deliver Value

We delivered value through a skilled workforce, established processes, and proven tools. This includes the transition to a new contract model and infrastructure, many areas of support for DFLAW readiness, our focused safety efforts, and our perseverance during the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### Align and Collaborate

Our focus on collaboration – with DOE, our fellow Hanford contractors, and our community – helped ensure the best value, scale, and delivery of excellence in all services. This is demonstrated through the growth and implementation of the One Hanford philosophy, Operating Excellence structured improvement activities, integrated site funding and the 5-Year Plan, and our unwavering commitment to community service and investment.



05 MAY



07 JULY



**Transform and Govern**

Ensuring informed decision-making and situational awareness across the Hanford Site led us to develop the One Hanford Governance Model. This has been extremely successful in maintaining the pace of operations and cleanup. The integration of business systems and strategic planning are also part of our site integrator role.

09 SEPTEMBER



10 OCTOBER



11 NOVEMBER



06 JUNE



08 AUGUST



**Evolve and Enhance**

We are excited to implement proven technologies in innovative ways to better support our Hanford customers. The use of unmanned aircraft systems (drones) enhances real-time situational awareness and safer inspection of facilities and environments. The connected enterprise technical roadmap is essential to maintain our ability to work in various environments, which was aided by improved mobile data capabilities in 2021. The Hanford Virtual Tour website gained thousands of views and will be routinely used to educate the public and illustrate cleanup progress at Hanford. In 2021, we achieved significant progress in reducing our IT footprint at Gable East, while adding essential infrastructure with the start of construction on the new Central Plateau Water Treatment Facility.

For details on these accomplishments, see the full *2021: Year in Review publication*. We're looking forward to what we will do for Hanford and our community in 2022!

12 DECEMBER



